

lengthy hospitalization or some other form of specialized care.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress has a moral responsibility to provide tax relief for low-income parents struggling to care for a sick child, in order to help them better meet their child's medical expenses. Some may say that we cannot enact the Child Health Care Affordability Act because it would cause the government to lose revenue, but who is more deserving of this money, Congress or the working parents of a sick child?

The Child Health Care Affordability Act takes a major step toward helping working Americans meet their health care needs by providing them with generous health care related tax cuts and tax credits. I urge my colleagues to support the pro-family, pro-health care tax cuts contained in the Child Health Care Affordability Act.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO DANIEL
AARON ROMERO**

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker it is with a solemn heart but also great pride that I honor the life and memory of Daniel Aaron Romero. Known to his family as Aaron, this young man responded to his country's call for help and gave his life for its security. On the seventeenth of March, Aaron was killed in Afghanistan while involved in an ordinance disposal operation. Like many young men and women today, Aaron believed that our nation needs her citizens to stand up and fight for our ideals and values, and like Aaron, several will have to pay the ultimate price. Aaron knew the risks, but believed in our cause, and today he reminds all Americans of the courage and selflessness that allows us the freedoms we cherish today. I can think of no better way to honor Aaron then to recognize his achievements and service before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Aaron was born in Longmont, Colorado and grew up in the town of Lafayette. In 1991, he fulfilled a lifelong dream of joining the military. He joined the Army and attended basic, advanced, individual, and eventually, airborne training. He excelled in his role as a soldier, and through hard work and dedication, he joined the prestigious ranks of the Special Forces. He was an esteemed member of B Company of the 5th battalion 19th Special Forces Group of the Colorado Army National Guard, and served as the valuable Communications Chief for his unit.

As member of the U.S. Army, Aaron traveled the world frequently in defense of his country, and after long periods of separation from his family, he was assigned the National Guard Post in Pueblo. He enjoyed spending time with his family and will be remembered as a wonderful person.

Mr. Speaker, Aaron's dedication to excellence is reflected in his decorations which include the Army Service Ribbon, the Non-Commissioned Officers Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Colorado Emergency Service Ribbon, the parachute badge, and the Special Forces tab. His dedication to this nation, his bravery, and his courage, serve as an

example to us all. In the wake of the tragedies of 9/11, Aaron's passing is just one more reminder of the price that we pay for freedom. Mr. Speaker it is my profound honor to bring such a man to the attention of this body of Congress and a grateful nation. Thank you Aaron, for all that you gave in defense of your state and your nation. As his family mourns his loss, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies.

DR. GEORGE BASS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding researcher from my district, Dr. George Bass. On Wednesday, June 12, 2002, Dr. Bass, a retired professor emeritus from Texas A&M University, will receive the National Medal of Science for his work in nautical archeology. This discipline is dedicated to understanding human existence through the discovery and study of ships and the cultures that constructed them.

Dr. Bass, known as the "father of nautical archeology," is internationally recognized as a leader in his field. Dr. Bass is credited for conducting the first excavation of an ancient shipwreck entirely on the seabed. This event took place in 1960. Since that time, Dr. Bass has conducted excavations in the United States, Turkey, and the Caribbean.

In 1973, Dr. Bass established the Institute of Nautical Archeology. Today, this institute conducts research on four continents. The information obtained from this research allows us to better understand how ancient societies conducted commerce, educated their children, and organized their lives.

For his contributions to his field, Dr. Bass has received numerous awards and decorations including the Gold Medal for Distinguished Archeological Achievement in 1986. Additionally, he was honored by the Society for Historical Archeology in 1999 and the American Academy of Achievement in 2001.

Although retired from Texas A&M, Dr. Bass is not retired from expanding our understanding of the past. He continues to be actively involved in his research institute and continues to publish in scholarly journals. For his contributions to human knowledge, I am forever grateful.

DIGITAL TELEVISION

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of an exciting new technology. Local television broadcasters across the country are undertaking their biggest advancement in years: the transition to digital television. These stations aim to provide new services to their viewers, our constituents. Digital TV opens the door to new possibilities like High Definition TV, interactive television, and expanded programming options.

Two Cleveland stations already serve my district with digital signals: WEWS, a Scripps

Howard Station and WKYC, a Gannett owned station, are leading the charge into the digital future.

Across the country, local broadcasters have made substantial investments in new transmitting facilities, new production equipment, and in some cases, new broadcast towers. Collectively, the broadcast industry has invested over one billion dollars in this new technology.

While local broadcasters are doing their part to propel the digital television transition forward, all the pieces of this transition have yet to fall into place. The transition will accelerate significantly once cable companies begin to carry local broadcasters' digital signals. 70% of U.S. television households receive their TV through cable. American consumers will begin to reap the full benefits of this revolution once digital television is available on cable.

I hope that Congress can work with these different groups: broadcasters and cable operators, and other interested parties on remaining issues. Until then, however, I am confident the future of television is digital. And that future is bright.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRET KELLY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of Bret Kelly, who recently passed away at the age of 79. Bret was a pillar of the Pueblo, Colorado community and, as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate that we remember his life and celebrate the work he did on behalf of others.

Born in Rocky Ford, Colorado, Bret attended Centennial High School in 1940. After graduating, he enrolled at the University of Colorado, though his studies there were interrupted when he answered the call to serve our nation in the US Army infantry in World War II. Bret's service in the war included fighting in the historic Battle of the Bulge, in which he suffered severe shrapnel wounds to his arm and back. At the conclusion of his time in the armed forces, Bret was awarded both the Silver Star and Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster for the uncommon valor that he displayed in the service of our nation.

Bret was a shining example of a man thoroughly involved in his community. He was named Citizen of the Year in 2001 by the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce and was lauded for having a profound influence on the entire Pueblo community. As a member of the Pueblo Board of Water Works and over a dozen community organizations, Bret's passion and involvement in the lives of his neighbors was an inspiration to all who knew him. His early financial support of the Pueblo Hispanic Education Fund made a difference in the lives of countless students. As the head of Steel City Agencies, Inc., Bret took an active interest in each of his 46 employees, promoting their continuing education and encouraging them to join him in giving back to their community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Bret Kelly for his contributions to the Pueblo area. Bret's dedication to his community, employees and family certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress. Although